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BOROUGH OF FALMOUTH



Annual Reports

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

(C. B. LANYON, M.D., Lond., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.)

AND

Sanitary Inspector

(A. HEY, F.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.)

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

31st December, 1946

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1946-1947.

THE MAYOR OF FALMOUTH (ALDERMAN W. A. LAMB).

Chairman : COUNCILLOR E. W. HEARLEY.

ALDERMEN A. NAPIER.

H. A. RIDER.

K. H. WILLIAMS.

COUNCILLORS W. J. BARNICOAT.

W. E. CAVILL.

T. H. ELKINGTON.

E. M. FROST.

E. E. HOWARD.

H. B. NATION

A. E. OSBERG.

G. L. ROBINS.

E. SMITH.

G. THOMPSON.

T. C. WILLIAMS.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health :

C. B. LANYON, M.D. (LOND.)

Sanitary Inspector :

A. HEY, F.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector :

G. BARNARD.

Health Visitors and School Nurses :

MISS C. TRUSCOTT, S.R.N., S.C.M.

MISS M. LAKEMAN, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Pupil Sanitary Inspector :

R. JONES.

BOROUGH OF FALMOUTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

for the Year Ending 31st December, 1946

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of
Falmouth.*

Miss Frost and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report of my Department for the year 1946.

I should like to express my thanks to the Sanitary Inspector and the Staff of his Department for their assistance during the past year.

Once again I am glad to report there is an increase in the number of births of 24 over the figure for 1945.

The Infant Mortality Rate is again low, being 33.64, as compared with 43 for England and Wales.

ANNUAL REPORT

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in acres)	1,893
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, 1946, for statistics	16,060
Number of Inhabited Houses, 1931	2,916
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1946), according to Rate Books	4,464 (approx.)
Rateable Value, 1946	£161,162
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£640 3 7.494

	Total	Male	Female
<i>Live Births</i> : Legitimate	292	140	152
Illegitimate	35	20	15
	—	—	—
	327	160	167

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population :
20.36. England and Wales : 19.1.

	Total	Male	Female
<i>Still Births</i> : Legitimate	6	3	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	—	—	—
	6	3	3

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births : 18.02.

	Total	Male	Female
<i>Deaths</i>	216	116	100

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population :
13.45. England and Wales : 11.5.

Deaths from puerperal causes :—

	Deaths	Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
Other Maternal causes	—	—
Total	—	—

Deaths of Infants under one year of age :—

Legitimate, 9 ; Illegitimate, 2 ; total, 11.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	33.64
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	30.82
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	57.14

England and Wales (Deaths under one year of age)	43
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	49
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	—
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	—

Maternal Mortality.

Pathological investigations are carried out by Dr. Hocking, of the Royal Cornwall Infirmary in cases of Puerperal Pyrexia when considered necessary.

When home conditions are unsatisfactory, and in cases of abnormality, arrangements have been made with the Cornwall County Council to admit cases to maternity beds maintained by that Council.

Child Welfare.

Sessions are held on Tuesdays and Fridays, at the Child Welfare Centre, from 2 to 4 p.m., for the weighing of babies and advice to mothers. The Medical Officer of Health interviews cases needing advice on Tuesdays, from 3 to 4 p.m.

All infants under five are visited by the Health Visitor, and advice, and, where necessary, treatment given in accordance with Circular 2831.

Dental Treatment.

Sessions are arranged by the County Authority.

Prevalence of, and Control Over Infectious Diseases.

Diphtheria has been the only notifiable disease of any note. Of the total of 38 cases, on subsequent examination, 18 were classified as carriers.

Thirty-three of the cases were removed to the County Isolation Hospital, at Truro. All contacts were followed up and 1089 booster doses of A.P.T. were given to school children.

The Council continued the plan of immunising the child population against diphtheria between the ages of 1-15, and since the scheme commenced in November, 1940, 3,605 children have been completely immunised.

Notifiable Diseases in 1946.

DISEASE.	No. of Cases Notified.	AGE AT NOTIFICATION.										No. of Cases Admitted to Hospital.	
		0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45		45-65	Over 65
Small Pox
Scarlet Fever	7	..	1	..	..	..	3
Diphtheria	24	8	2	1	..	..	33
Euteric Fever
(including Paratyphoid)
Pneumonia	1	..	..	..	1	..	..
Erysipelas	9	..
Enteropathitis Lethargica	1	..
Influenza Pyrexia	3	..	..	..
Dysentery	1	..
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Cerebro-spinal Fever	1
Malaria
Measles	1
Whooping Cough	5

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Tuberculosis.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	—	3	—	—	2	1	—	—
35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	—
55	—	2	—	—	2	1	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals	1	5	—	1	4	5	—	—

I am, your obedient servant,

C. B. LANYON,

Medical Officer of Health.



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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Borough Sanitary Inspector

for the Year Ending December, 1946

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of
Falmouth.*

28th July, 1947.

Miss Frost and Gentlemen,

In submitting to you my 20th Annual Report on the Sanitary circumstances of the Borough, I have been guided by Circular 13/47, issued by the Ministry of Health for this purpose and is in abridged form.

A large amount of time has been devoted to the issue of Licenses concerning the Maintenance and Repairs of premises in connection with the "Control of Civil Buildings," Salvage Collection and Disposal and, for the 8th year in succession I have carried out numerous duties entailed in Billeting as your Chief Billeting Officer.

The Salvage yield declined on the previous year, the chief difference being the loss of 17 tons of Waste Paper, 10 tons of Kitchen Waste and $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons of Bones.

In connection with Rodent Infestation, a Maintenance Treatment of the sewers was carried out, and during the latter part of the year, the Private Dwellings Special Scheme (Block Control) was adopted.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

The Water Engineer reports that the Water Supply to the Statutory Area has proved satisfactory, both in quality and quantity.

Bacteriological and Chemical examinations of the Treated Waters are made quarterly and Bacteriological examination of the Treated Water monthly. The results declare a "Wholesome supply of water suitable for a Public Supply."

By treatment with Lime the pH value of the water is maintained at 9.5 to assure freedom from plumbo-solvent action. The maintenance of this value is confirmed by Chemical Analysis. Continuous Coagulation, Filtration and Chlorination is maintained. The proportion of dwelling houses and of the population supplied from public water mains direct to the house is 90 per cent., and by means of stand pipes 1 per cent., exclusive of Rural and/or Areas.

The extension of the water main to the Golden Bank Area was considered during the year, and I hope that in my next Annual Report to be able to say that this has been accomplished.

Sewerage.

There have been no major alterations or extensions during the year.

Drainage.

During the year, 13 new drains were tested, first by means of Water Test, then by Smoke Test, and all finally approved. In addition, 241 yards of new 6 inch sewer at the Penwerris Housing Scheme were tested and approved.

Four old drains were examined and found defective ; these were exposed and relaid to my satisfaction.

Rivers and Streams.

Action was taken to check pollution as found necessary, and samples of effluent from the Swanvale Sewage Works were taken by the County Sanitary Officer and myself.

Closet Accommodation.

With the exception of a very small number of Pail Closets in outside areas all are on the Water carriage and connected to the Council's sewers.

We have, however, 149 premises connected to Cesspits, where no sewers are available, these being regularly emptied by an approved type of Cesspool Emptier.

Public Conveniences.

There are 21 Public Conveniences in the Borough, which are cleaned daily, four of these have a Caretaker for 9 hours every day ; two are open in the season only.

I earnestly recommend the Council to seriously consider the enlarging of the Webber Street and Market Strand Conveniences, also the provision of Conveniences at Rosehill Gardens.

Shops and Offices.

The inspection of Shops and Offices as regards their sanitary accommodation was continued during the year, and 26 inspections were made in connection with hours of closing and a number of contraventions were dealt with.

Young Persons Act.

Twenty-three complaints were received, all of which were investigated, and in 7 cases it was found that the employers were working the Young Persons more hours than was allowed under the Act. After interviews with Employers and, in some cases, Employees, I am happy to report that a readjustment of the working hours was agreed upon and Legal Proceedings were not necessary.

Camping Sites.

There are no Licensed Camping Sites in the Borough.

Eradication of Vermin.

Cases of infestation of houses by bed bugs were few in number.

Disinfestation for bed bugs was carried out by the use of a heavy concentration of SO₂ together with spraying by an insecticide, such as Zaldecide or Vermicine.

Rodent Control.

In connection with the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, and the Infestation Order, 1943, 171 cases were dealt with.

Of these, three were major infestations and 168 were minor in character.

The baits used for prebaiting were 4 cwts. of Sausage Rusk and $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. Bread Mash, and for poisoning—Arsenic and Zinc Phosphide were the chief agents.

Based on the actual "takes of poison," it is estimated that 3,833 rats were killed.

The work done during the year included the treatment of the Council's Sewers, which resulted in an estimated kill of 375, included in the above total.

Housing.

Housing work was chiefly restricted to dealing with maintenance of property in as reasonable a condition as possible, in view of the shortage of materials and labour. It is one thing to serve a notice, but quite another to secure compliance, and instead of an improvement the outlook is worse.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

There are 159 cows housed in the 17 farms in the Borough.

There is one Licensed producer and retailer of Accredited Milk, 9 Licensed Producers and 3 Licensed Retailers.

Seventy-six Cowshed inspections were made during the year.

No samples have been taken during the war years for the examination as to the presenee of Tuberele Bacilli.

Distribution of milk was earried out by 34 purveyors, there being one distributor of Pasteurised milk.

Meat and Other Foods.

All slaughtering is done outside the Borough, but 175 visits were made to Meat and other Food Shops, and Bake-houses, and small quantities of meat and other foodstuffs condemned, the total weight of foodstuffs condemned during the year was 1 ton 18 cwt.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

1st April, 1946—31st March, 1947.

A weekly collection of Salvage was maintained along with a weekly collection of Refuse. Refuse is disposed of by means of incineration at the Electricity Works.

As will be seen by the following table, the total tonnage of paper collected declined by 17 tons.

I am sorry to report that there is another decrease in Salvage, despite the numerous appeals made to the Public. In the present difficult situation, the avoidanee of any form of waste is a prime necessity, and every serap of paper saved by the householder can be put to good use in the manufacture of various commodities. Kitchen waste saves the importation of expensive feeding stuffs, and salvage is a valuable way of helping the country in its difficult period.

The following is the tonnage of materials collected and sold :—

			1946	1945
Waste Paper	.....	.....	98 tons	115 tons
Ferrous Metals	.....	.....	— „	41 „
Textiles	.....	.....	3 „	3 „
Bottles and Jars	.....	.....	— „	1 „
Kitchen Waste	.....	.....	73 „	83 „
Bones	.....	.....	$\frac{1}{2}$ „	2 „
			<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Tonnage	.....	.....	174 $\frac{1}{2}$ „	245 „
			<hr/>	<hr/>
Value	.....	.....	£782	£1,162

Public Cleansing.

Your Inspector continued to act as Honorary District Adviser to the Salvage and Recovery Department (L.A.), of the Ministry of Supply for District 25, which includes all Boroughs, Urban and Rural Districts of Cornwall.

The Staff of the Cleansing Department consists of 11 males whole-time and 4 males part-time.

The equipment consists of two mechanical refuse collection vehicles, one 850 gallon capacity Cesspool Emptyer and one lorry part-time from the Highways Department.

One of the Refuse Vehicles has been on the road since 1934, another since 1939, and the Cesspool Emptyer since 1935.

The number of loads of Refuse taken to the Destructor is as follows :—Dodge No. 1, 962 ; Dodge No. 2, 1,000 ; Morris, 496 ; Hired Lorry, 44. Estimated tonnage, 4,378.

Taking all our services into consideration :—

The total Cost of Collection is £3,694 11 8

Receipts—

Sale of Salvaged

Materials £782 0 2

Leaving a net Cost of Collection of £2,912 11 6

Cost of Disposal, Burning of Refuse £164 3 10

(as compared with £251 14s. 7d. in 1939).

Receipts—

For Collection of Refuse £50 0 0

Leaving the net Cost of Burning £114 3 10

(as compared with £201 14s. 7d. in 1939).

Cost of Removing Clinker from Destructor £438 10 8

Receipts £100 0 0

Leaving net Cost of Removing Clinker £338 10 8

Emptying of Cesspools.

The Total Cost of these Services amounts to £805 2 9

Receipts for Hire of Cesspool Emptyer £29 0 0

Leaving a Net Cost of £776 2 9

In concluding this report, I desire to express my sincere appreciation of the support received during the year from the Sanitary and other Committees, my best thanks to the staff, one and all, for their loyalty, zeal and devotion, and for the able and energetic manner in which they have at all times discharged their many and onerous duties, often under very trying conditions.

I am, your obedient servant,

A. HEY,

Sanitary Inspector.

